

EXECUTIVE ORDER S-22-06

WHEREAS the San Joaquin Valley is remarkably rich and diverse in its people, agriculture, industry, and natural wonders. Within the expanses of the Valley is located a region rich in resources and important to California's heritage, economy, environment, and identity. It is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world - home to farmlands that feed the nation and the world. It encompasses three world-class national parks that preserve the natural beauty of the Valley and the mountains that bound it. The San Joaquin Valley is intersected by a transportation corridor that is critical to the state's interstate commerce. Its people are hardworking and representative of many cultures, races, and nationalities; and

WHEREAS despite all these many assets, the San Joaquin Valley faces many unique challenges as it works for a prosperous and healthy future. Compared to the rest of our great state, the Valley lags behind in several important quality of life measures. The per capita income for Valley residents is a third lower than for the average Californian. Young adults attend college at one-half of the average rate. Access to healthcare is nearly a third lower for the Valley's citizens. The region is also put at risk with its air quality which is among the lowest in the nation; and

WHEREAS the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley ("Partnership") was created by Executive Order S-05-05 to focus attention on one of the most vital, yet challenged regions of the state and recommend changes that would improve the economic well-being of the Valley and the quality of life of its residents. The Partnership has crafted a Strategic Action Proposal that will achieve those goals; and

WHEREAS the Partnership has developed a vision to build a cohesive community supported by a vibrant economy built on competitive strengths and sufficient resources to provide a high quality of life for all Valley residents in order to achieve the "3Es" of sustainable growth, a Prosperous Economy, Quality Environment, and Social Equity; and

WHEREAS the Partnership has already achieved many valuable accomplishments and identified six initiatives to achieve its vision. The Legislature has recognized the accomplishments and promise of the Partnership by appropriating \$5 million for the implementation of the Strategic Action Proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of California, do hereby issue this Executive Order to become effective immediately:

1. The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is hereby established. The Partnership is composed of eight state government members, eight elected local government officials, eight civic leader members, one representative each from the Federal Interagency Task Force for the Economic Development of the San Joaquin Valley, Economic Strategy Panel, California Transportation Commission, California Air Resources Board, and California Workforce Investment Board, up to twelve representatives of regional consortia of existing organizations recognized by the Partnership, and up to three individuals with specialized expertise and knowledge of Valley issues all appointed by the Governor. The Secretary of the

Business, Transportation and Housing Agency; Secretary for Education; Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency; Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency; Secretary of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency; Secretary of the Resources Agency; Secretary of the State and Consumer Services Agency; and Secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture shall serve as the state members. The local government members shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of mayors, members of county boards of supervisors or city councils submitted by each of the eight Councils of Government from the following counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern with one appointment from each county. The regional consortia representatives will be nominated by the Partnership for consideration of appointment by the Governor. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and without compensation.

2. All state legislators from the San Joaquin Valley Delegation and all members of the United States Congressional San Joaquin Valley Delegation will be non-voting members of the Partnership.

3. The Governor will appoint one local elected official, one civic leader, and one Cabinet Member from among the above Partnership members to be the chair and two deputy chairs.

4. The Partnership shall perform the following duties:

(a) Facilitate the implementation of the San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action Proposal approved by the Governor.

(b) Utilize the \$5 million appropriation for Fiscal Year 2006 -2007 to fund implementation of the Strategic Action Proposal.

(c) Convene a region wide Annual Summit to engage government officials, civic leaders, and the public to evaluate and adjust the Strategic Action Proposal. Identify projects and programs that will best utilize public dollars and most quickly improve the economic vitality of the Valley, especially those that leverage federal, state, local, and private sector resources in a coordinated effort to address critical needs in the Valley.

(d) Prepare an annual progress report.

5. The Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency shall provide administrative support to the Partnership out of the budget augmentation for the Strategic Action Proposal and existing resources. The Director of Finance may accept monetary gifts for the support of the activities of the Partnership.

6. Unless extended by another executive order, the Partnership shall terminate its business and cease to exist on December 31, 2008.

7. This Order does not alter the existing authorities or roles of the executive branch departments, agencies, or offices. Nothing in this Order shall supersede any requirement made by or under law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 28th day of November 2006.

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor of California

ATTEST:

BRUCE McPHERSON
Secretary of State